**American Government**

**The Nominating Process Focus Questions**

**Topic 11 – Lesson 2**

**February 8, 2018**

***Instructions: Read Topic 11, Lesson 2 and answer the following focus questions.***

***1. What is the critical first step in the election process?***

***2. Explain the importance of the nominating process in each of the following:***

***a) a two-party system***

***b) a one-party system***

***3. What is a general election?***

***4. List and briefly describe the 5 ways nominations are made in the U.S.***

***5. Why is the caucus rarely used today except in presidential elections?***

***6. Why did the direct primary replace the convention in most states?***

***7. Define the following:***

***a) closed primary***

***b) open primary***

***c) blanket primary***

***8. Why is the blanket primary no longer in use?***

***9. List 3 arguments for and against the closed primary.***

***a) for***

***b) against***

***10. What is a runoff primary and when is it used?***

***11. What are nonpartisan elections, and how are candidates for these offices***

***nominated?***

***12. How is the presidential primary different from other primaries?***

***13. What was the original purpose of the direct primary?***

***14. Name 7 criticism of the direct primary.***